

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Attendees, Date and Type of Interview

The interview was conducted on 8 June 2011 and attended by Xuan Lan Nguyen, Josué Villalta, and Alejandro Muñoz.

Exhibits and/or Demonstrations

N/A

Identification of Claims Discussed

Claim 1

Identification of Prior Art Discussed

U.S. Pat. No. 5,831,417 (“Chu”)

Proposed Amendments

Applicant proposed possible amendments to address the restriction. Applicant further proposed amending the claims to recite multiple shape memory alloy rods arranged in parallel, which the Examiner agreed are not disclosed or taught in Daniels (US 6,045,076) or Chu (US 5,831,417).

Principal Arguments and Other Matters

Applicant argued that the SMA wires 305A and 305B of Chu do not remain unchanged upon removal of an applied current, and thus the rejection of Claim 1 in view of Chu is improper.

Results of Interview

The Examiner agreed that amendments to the claims would overcome the restriction. No agreement was reached regarding Applicant’s arguments about Chu. Applicant suggested the possibility of an interview with the Examiner’s supervisor, given the Examiner’s lack of familiarity with elements of Chu indirectly related to Applicant’s arguments.